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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/047,620	01/15/2002	Paul Applewhite	C-CGB-0093	5773

7590 03/23/2006

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EXAMINER
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PARRY, CHRISTOPHER L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/047,620	<b>Applicant(s)</b> APPLEWHITE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Chris Parry	<b>Art Unit</b> 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 January 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/29/02, 3/13/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Oath/Declaration***

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:  
The signature of one of the inventors is missing. The signatures of each inventor may be provided in an application data sheet or a supplemental oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.63(c) and 37 CFR 1.76.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "52" and "54" have both been used to designate TV set or monitor. Also reference characters "20" and "21" have both been used to designate output line. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "23" has been used to designate both microprocessor and output line. Also reference character "54" has been used to designate both remote control signal reader and TV set or monitor. Also reference character "52" has been used to designate both remote control sensor and TV set or monitor. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to because the line, indicating antenna 14 in figure 1 is missing an arrow. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the

Art Unit: 2614

replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: Reference sign 28 is missing from figure 5 indicating the video recorder 28. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Specification***

6. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the length exceeds 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

7. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 6, line 13, "Fig. 1 illustrates shows" should be --Fig. 1 illustrates--. On page 9, line 21, "connector to a correspond" should be --connector to a corresponding--. On page 10, line 4, "infrared remote control sensor 54" should be --infrared remote control sensor 52--. On page 10, line 18, "along the line 22" should be --along the line 23--. On page 11, lines 11 and 17, "devices 24-32" should be --devices 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32--. On page 11, line 16, "the video 28" should be --the video recorder 28--. On page 13, line 23, "single programable" should be --single programmable--.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

8. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 1 for claim 3, "dec" should be --described--. Appropriate correction is required.

9. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 1 of claim 11, "in claim 1" should be --in claim 10--. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

11. Claims 1-2, 6-7, 10, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shah et al. "Shah" (U.S. 6,636,931).

Regarding Claim 1, Shah discloses a home entertainment system (9 - figure 1), comprising: a hub (10, 18, 26, 35, 36 – figure 1) having a plurality of TV tuners (10-17 – figure 1) for each demodulating a video carrier signal that is modulated with a plurality of video channels (Col. 6, lines 25-36), each TV tuner having an output that carries a baseband signal representing one of the video channels (Col. 6, lines 42-55), and each TV tuner having an input for receiving control signals to change the channel (Col. 8, line 66 – Col. 9, line 17).

Shah discloses a plurality of terminals (27-34 – figure 1) that each includes a video monitor for displaying a video image (Col. 8, lines 29-31) and a controller (42 – figure 2) for generating control signals (Col. 8, lines 31-35). Although a video monitor is not explicitly disclosed coupled to a terminal, receivers 27-34 must be coupled to a

Art Unit: 2614

video monitor, as the receiver comprises an A/V output 40 that outputs images and sound for the user. Further, Shah discloses the crosspoint matrix switching system 9 can be applied to other applications such as video monitors for airports (Col. 10, lines 60-67).

Shah discloses a switching matrix (26 – figure 1) that has multiple supply ports, each of a plurality of said supply ports connected to an output of one of said TV tuners (10-17 – figure 1), and having multiple consumer ports each connected to the video monitor and controller of a terminal (27-34 – figure 1) (Col. 7, lines 20-25 and (Col. 7, lines 56-62). Shah discloses A/V sources 10-17 or “TV tuners” are connected to switching matrix 26 via encoders 18-25 and the encoders are used to format a compatible signal for switching matrix 26 (Col. 6, lines 42-62).

As for Claim 2, Shah discloses wherein: each of said TV tuners includes a stereo sound decoder (Col. 6, lines 63-66). Shah discloses A/V sources 10-17 include a stereo sound decoder because each A/V source outputs one video signal, and two audio signals, which can be a stereo audio format.

As for Claim 6, Shah discloses a plurality of linking elements (37 – figure 1) that carries signals (Col. 8, lines 21-35).



Shah discloses the hub (10, 18, 26, 35, 36 – figure 1) has an array of connectors, each connector in the array being connectable to a TV tuner (10-17 – figure 1) by one of said linking elements and each connector being connectable to a selected one of the supply ports of the switching matrix by another linking element, whereby each TV tuner can be associated with a selected consumer port using the linking elements (Col. 7, lines 20-34). Shah discloses using the crosspoint switching matrix 26 to allow any receiver to connect and receive A/V content from any A/V source (Col. 7, lines 52-55).

As for Claim 7, Shah discloses at least one of video camera connected to one of said supply ports (Col. 6, lines 26-31).

Regarding Claim 10, Shah disclose an entertainment center system (9 – figure 1) that includes a plurality of TV tuner video devices (10-17 – figure 1) that each demodulate at least one high frequency carrier signal to generate each of a plurality of corresponding baseband signals (Col. 6, lines 25-44), a plurality of generating video devices that each generates baseband signals (Col. 6, lines 26-31), and a plurality of video monitors that are isolated from one another (40 – figure 2) (Col. 8, lines 29-31 and Col. 10, lines 60-67), comprising: a switching matrix (26 – figure 1) that has a default setting wherein said switching matrix connects each of a plurality of the baseband signals of said video devices to each of a selected one of said video monitors (Col. 6, lines 34-46). Shah further discloses each output node of crosspoint switching matrix 26

Art Unit: 2614

us connected to a receiver 27-34 through twisted pair wires 37. The function of each receiver 27-34 is to accept an encoded signal from matrix 26, decode said signal back into baseband format, and provide a set of audio/video outputs corresponding to the decoded signals (Col. 7, lines 56-63). So even though Shah does not explicitly disclose video monitors, they must be included to allow the user to view requested content.

Shah discloses a plurality of controls (42 – figure 2) for use at each of said video monitors, which enables a person viewing a particular video monitor to control the switching matrix (26 – figure 1) to connect the baseband signal of a different one of said video devices to said particular video monitor (Col. 9, lines 3-17).

Shah discloses at least one of said generating video devices is a video camera that generates a view of an area (Col. 6, lines 26-31) and said switching matrix (26 – figure 1) is constructed to switch one of its outputs that is delivered to one of said video monitors, to display the output of one of said TV tuner devices or the output of said camera (Col. 5, lines 34-42). Shah discloses A/V source can comprises a cable tuner, digital satellite receiver, camcorder, or security camera and further any receiver can view any one of the connected sources at any time using remote control 42 shown in figure 2 (Col. 9, lines 3-17).

As for Claim 13, Shah discloses each of said TV tuner video devices is operable to generate a baseband video signal representing one of multiple video channels (Col. 6, lines 25-44), and including a channel changer associated with each TV tuner video

Art Unit: 2614

device for generating a signal to operate the TV tuner video device to demodulate another of said multiple video channels when the corresponding monitor is connected to one of said TV tuner video devices (Col. 9, lines 3-17 and Col. 10, lines 12-28), said switching matrix (26 – figure 4) including a plurality of controls (43-45, 47-51 – figure 4) each responsive to one of said channel changer at a video monitor for operating a corresponding TV tuner video device to change the video channel that is generated (Col. 10, lines 1-24).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah in view of Toyoda et al. "Toyoda" (U.S. 6,700,605).

As for Claim 8, Shah discloses the electronic switching system could be used for video distribution for security systems but fails to disclose wherein: said camera has a motion detector and generates an alarm signal when it detects motion; said hub comprises means for detecting an alarm signal from the camera output, and wherein the

switching matrix is controllable in response to the alarm signal to interrupt at least a portion of the output of a selected TV tuner and deliver camera signals in their place.

In an analogous art, Toyoda discloses wherein: said camera (6, 7, 8 – figure 1) has a motion detector and generates an alarm signal when it detects motion (Col. 4, lines 31-39).

Toyoda further discloses said hub (1, 5-8, 16-19 – figure 1) comprises means for detecting an alarm signal from the camera output, and wherein the switching matrix is controllable in response to the alarm signal to interrupt at least a portion of the output of a selected TV tuner and deliver camera signals in their place (Col. 5, lines 39-44). Toyoda discloses when the matrix switcher receives an alert signal, a signal is sent to VTR 13 to begin recording a higher quality picture and the signal is output on monitor 12 which is connected to VTR 13 as shown in figure 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include a motion detector, an alert device, and connecting an alert signal to a selected video monitor as taught by Toyoda for the benefit of notifying the user of a possible intrusion by an undesirable person in a monitored region (Col. 4, lines 34-39).

As for Claim 11, Shah fails to disclose the system described in claim 10 including: a motion detector that detects motion in the view of the video camera; an alert device that generates an alert signal indicating motion largely in the view of the video

Art Unit: 2614

camera; said switching matrix connects said alert signal to a selected one of said video monitors to produce an alert at the video monitor.

In an analogous art, Toyoda discloses, a motion detector that detects motion in the view of the video camera (Col. 4, lines 34-39). Toyoda discloses each camera comprises a motion detector so when the motion detector detects an undesirable condition, an alert can be sent to matrix switcher 1. Toyoda discloses an alert device that generates an alert signal indicating motion largely in the view of the video camera (Col. 4, lines 31-39 and Col. 5, lines 39-44). Toyoda further discloses said switching matrix (1 – figure 1) connects said alert signal to a selected one of said video monitors (12 – figure 1) to produce an alert at the video monitor (Col. 5, lines 39-44). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include a motion detector, an alert device, and connecting an alert signal to a selected video monitor as taught by Toyoda for the benefit of notifying the user of a possible intrusion by an undesirable person in a monitored region (Col. 4, lines 34-39).

14. Claims 3-4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah in view of Cranston (GB 2 296 169 A) (previously cited by applicant).

As for Claim 3, Shah discloses a multiplicity of twisted wire pair cables (37 – figure 1)...extending between said consumer ports and said terminals. However, Shah

Art Unit: 2614

fails to disclose a plurality of said twisted wire pair cables extending between said TV tuners and said supply ports and a plurality of twisted wire pair cables extending between said consumer ports and said terminals.

In an analogous art, Cranston discloses a plurality of said twisted wire pair cables extending between said TV tuners (10 – figure 2) and said supply ports (6 – figure 1) and a plurality of twisted wire pair cables (4 – figure 1) extending between said consumer ports and said terminals (3 – figure 1) (Page 4, lines 4-14 and Page 6, lines 25-35). It is well know in the art to use RJ45 sockets for connecting twisted pair type cables. Cranston discloses transmitting station 1, which comprises eight tuners 10, further comprises RJ45 sockets 5 used to connect patch cords 6 to patch board 7 or “switching ports”. Patch board 7 comprises supply ports to receive incoming signals from transmitting station 1 and consumer ports to output signals to terminals 3 via cabling network 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include a plurality of said twisted wire pair cables extending between said TV tuners and said supply ports and a plurality of twisted wire pair cables extending between said consumer ports and said terminals as taught by Cranston for the benefit of using low cost wire to transmit A/V content throughout the home.

As for Claim 4, Shah and Cranston disclose, in particular Cranston teaches wherein: each of said twisted wire pair cables that connects to a terminal includes four twisted wire pairs (Cranston - Page 6, lines 25-26).

As for Claim 12, Shah discloses said video camera is located outside of said particular room (Col. 6, lines 26-31 and Col. 10, lines 60-67). Shah discloses one of the A/V sources can be a security camera that would be used to monitor a single area or possibly a plurality of areas, so therefore the camera would not be located in the same room as the switching matrix. However, Shah fails to explicitly disclose wherein: said TV tuner video devices and said switching matrix are all located in the same particular room of a home.

In an analogous art, Cranston discloses wherein: said TV tuner video devices (1 – figure 1) and said switching matrix (7 – figure 1) are all located in the same particular room of a home (Page 4, lines 4-17). Cranston discloses transmitting station 1 and patch-board 7 are connected by patch cords 6 which are used to connect devices that are within a short distance from each other, so therefore TV tuner video devices and the switching matrix are all located in the same particular room. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include TV tuner video devices and switching matrix are all located in the same particular room of a home as taught by Cranston for the benefit of keeping all of the components in a central location within the home.

15. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah in view of Hicks III et al. "Hicks" (U.S. 2004/0255326).

As for Claim 9, Shah discloses wherein: said switching arrangement is constructed to selectively couple a first supply port at which audio is received from a consumer device to selected multiple consumer ports (Col. 7, lines 26-34). However, Shah fails to disclose wherein: said switching arrangement is constructed to selectively couple a first supply port at which audio is received from a consumer device to selected multiple consumer ports and including a plurality of loudspeakers connected to said selected multiple consumer ports.

In an analogous art, Hicks discloses wherein: said switching arrangement (105 – figure 1) is constructed to selectively couple a first supply port at which audio is received from a consumer device to selected multiple consumer ports (¶ 55). Hicks discloses data switch 105 can output a high bandwidth signal over link 95 to TV 40. Further, the audio signal can also received by an audio system that produces audio of a better quality than the speakers of a typical television. Switch 105 includes a connection to port 141, which is connected to an audio system 60 via link 96 as shown in figure 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include a plurality of loudspeakers connected to said selected multiple consumer ports as taught by Hicks for the benefit of outputting the



Art Unit: 2614

audio on to speakers of better quality than the speakers inside the traditional television (Hicks – ¶ 55).

16. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah in view of Nakagome et al. "Nakagome" (U.S. 4,456,988).

As for Claim 14, Shah discloses wherein: said switching matrix (26 – figure 1) has multiple signal inputs...that are all baseband signals (Col. 6, lines 42-55), and including multiple video signal cables (37 – figure 1) that each connects said switching matrix to one of said monitors...(Col. 5, lines 34-46). However, Shah fails to explicitly disclose matrix 26 outputting a baseband signal to a monitor.

In an analogous art, Nakagome discloses switching matrix (13 – figure 4) has multiple signal inputs (2 – figure 4) and multiple signal outputs (4 – figure 4) that are all baseband signals (Col. 3, lines 36-44). Nakagome discloses the user of a baseband dynamic switch matrix 13 to receiver and transmit baseband signals to multiple receivers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shah to include a switching matrix capable of receiving and outputting baseband signals as taught by Nakagome for the benefit of transmitting a signal that requires no further decoding.

Art Unit: 2614

17. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah in view of Cranston as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Georger et al. "Georger" (U.S. 5,367,273).

As for Claim 5, Shah and Cranston disclose, in particular Cranston teaches wherein: one of twisted wire pairs is allocated to remote control signaling, one twisted wire pair is allocated to one channel of audio...and one twisted wire pair is allocated to video data (Cranston – Page 6, lines 25-35). However, the combination of Shah and Cranston fail to disclose wherein: one twisted wire pair is allocated to another channel of audio.

In an analogous art, Georger discloses an adapter 30 that converts three A/V signals into one. The adapter outputs the signals through modular jack 34. Modular jack 34 includes at least three pairs of electrical pins, each pair of pins coupled to one of the input ports 31-33. As shown, the first two pins (1 and 2) are used for audio channel "A", while pins 3 and 6 are used for audio channel "B" and pins 7 and 8 are used for video and pins 4 and 5 are not used (Col. 2, lines 3-17). Cord 36 which is a standard unshielded twisted pair cord that contains at least three twisted pairs is connected to modular jack 34, so therefore Cranston discloses four twisted wire pairs wherein one of twisted wire pairs is allocated to one channel of audio, one twisted wire pair is allocated to another channel of audio and one twisted wire pair is allocated to video data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

Art Unit: 2614

invention was made to modify the combination of Shah and Cranston to include one twisted wire pair is allocated to another channel of audio as taught by Georger for the benefit of transmitting dual channel audio signals on twisted pair wiring (Georger – Col. 1, lines 29-31).

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chris Parry whose telephone number is (571) 272-8328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on (571) 272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiners Initials: CLR  
March 16, 2006

  
**CHRISTOPHER GRANT**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**